

SECRET

MGK-A- 32752

Chief, Foreign Division M

17 September 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Operational

Stay-Behind Operational Sites

1. Previous memos, particularly MGK-A-26903 and MGK-A-27982, outlined our concern regarding the limitations of buried caches of stay-behind agent equipment which presents problems of deterioration while buried, risks in recovery, and repeated risks of burial and recovery each time the agent is to meet his operations plan. As an alternate to this, we have been thinking of preparing agent operational sites which will incorporate secure caches of equipment, as well as be a solution to the agent's problems of a place from which to start operations.

2. One such plan is the KIBITZ 10 base (which was delayed during the exchange of memos for approval until it now must wait until the end of this present gardening season) and for another, we have found an apartment which is ideal for the purpose. Essentially, the apartment is the one-room kitchenette and bath, bachelor type in a newly reconstructed building for retail stores on the ground floor, offices on the second floor, apartments on the three floors above, and the top floor, which is being consolidated for use as a pension type hotel. This variety of accommodations will allow for inconspicuous comings and goings almost any time of day or night. Further, the building is in the central commercial district of Frankfurt and not the type normally requisitioned either as headquarters or billets by an occupation force. Particularly, a stupid architectural error leaves a sort of loft over the bathroom which provides some 40 cubic feet which can be converted to a secure storage room (or even an entire operations room) by constructing a dummy storage cabinet over the entrance.

3. While still not completed, the reconstruction cost (Bankostenzuschuss) is not definitely determined, but it is estimated at about DM 4,000, returnable through a rent reduction from DM 80.00 to DM 60.00 per month until the tenant, protected by a saleable lease, has his loan to the constructor amortized. Having had prior approval for this type project, we are taking the apartment through the agency of []'s international trading firm as a real estate speculation with an option in our favor. Then, as soon as we can complete arrangements for one of our documented agents to take title, we will cut the [] link by declining our option and having the agent take possession directly through the management.

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